

Miscellaneous.

From the Indiana Farmer.

The effects of light on vegetation are truly interesting to an enquiring mind. It is generally known that the healthy verdure of plants is due to the influence of the solar rays; for every one must have observed the pale sickly appearance of grass which has been entirely secluded from light; and the whiteness, and the bloated condition of vegetables which have sprouted in dark cellars. Light facilitates the decomposition of the ascending sap, in the leaves, causing the escape of oxygen, and the deposit of carbon in the plant.—Thus carbon is supposed to be the cause of the green color of the leaves, and if it is not detached from the oxygen and aqueous parts of the sap, the plant will become pale and dropsical. Other things being the same, the verdure of vegetation is deepened in proportion to the quantity of light. But the solar beams have other remarkable effects upon plants. They control the stature of trees and herbs, render them more compact and determine the direction of their growth. Plants love light; and they will change their course to get into it. Many years ago, I fastened three boards together so as to form a trough; this I closed at one end, and inverted over a potato, which had sprouted to a considerable length. The box or trough was several feet long, and was placed so as to admit light at either extremity of it, as might be required. The potato was placed close to the shut or darkened end, and left undisturbed for a number of days; the vine was then found to have run nearly to the open or light end of the box. Without disturbing the plant, I closed, this opening and let the light in at the other end where the potato was; in a short time the stem came travelling back in the opposite direction, and was allowed to reach the aperture. The stem was thus drawn out to an enormous length, and might have been elongated still more, if the experiment had been continued. If the plant be an erect one, and light be admitted at the top only the stem will run upward and attain an extraordinary height. I recollect seeing a tree in one of the eastern cities, growing in a contracted back yard surrounded by walls three stories high; it was fastened at intervals to one of the walls, and had run up to the top of the house. Not being able to recognize the tree in that novel shape, the leaves being too high for my vision, I enquired of the resident the name of his vine; he smiled and replied, it is my peach tree.

How many gardeners culpably that the radishes they intended for the table, are running up to seed! How many plants said to be dwarfs, become aspirants for the stars, in their grounds! A little attention to the influence of light upon vegetation, will correct the evil. It is true a very rich soil will also sometimes lengthen the stem, and if it be desirable to preserve a plant dwarfish, regard must of course be paid to the condition of the soil; but I conceive that the due regulation of solar light is more important. Let any one ex-

amine the plants that the direct rays of the sun, for perhaps half the day have not access to them; the plant therefore on the east side of a fence, or of tall vegetation, has to act somewhat like an animal, and raise its head above the obstacle to see the sun set. We often see tomato plants encroaching upon the garden-walks, when it was supposed they were set sufficiently remote to prevent this inconvenience; it will generally be found in these cases that they are shaded in other directions, and have no inducement to grow where they cannot be exposed to its salutary influence. Cabbages sometimes obstinately refuse to head; not being plentifully provided with light, it requires the full expansion of every leaf to appropriate what there is to the best advantage; not to the best advantage to man, but to the vegetable. When light is abundant, a few of the outer leaves are developed and supply the wants of the plant, the services of the others not being needed are allowed to fold up together and form a head.

There is no doubt, other cases co-operate to produce these undesirable effects upon vegetation, but the exclusion of light will be found to be the chief, and some instances, the only cause. In a wet, cloudy season dwarf pea vines will become great runners, and the marrowfat, and other tall kinds of peas will aspire still higher; in this case, the excessive moisture probably exerts no influence in conjunction with absence of sufficient light, on the growth of the plants.

If therefore we wish to cultivate dwarf vegetables; if we wish to mature fruit or ripen seed; if we desire to render plants pae, and consolidate their stalks or trunks; if we propose to confine a vegetable within certain limits; in a word, if we desire to produce a healthy growth, it is only necessary to give the plant a due quantity of light. Set the seed parsnips, beets, and other roots in the middle of the garden, instead of by shady fence sides, or in the midst of tall vegetation. All herbs too, such as sage, balm, and savory, are improved in flavor by abundant light; our most fragrant, and spicy vegetable products are obtained from highly illuminated latitudes; as cinnamon, nutmegs, cloves, and cardamom.

Light produces a pale or deep green according to the quantity of nutrient furnished the plant; hence we sometimes see here and there a very dark green turnip top, and here and there patches of remarkably deep green wheat, oats, grass, &c., although the whole field is equally exposed to the solar beams. Unless light is furnished with the proper materials to act upon, it is in vain that it rays play upon the starved plant; it can at best produce but the lower shades of green. On the other hand, when the light is plentiful and aliment abundant, every vegetative function is performed with activity and ease, the plant becomes mantled with darkest green, and all the elaborate juices and the various secretions are of the richest quality.

It is upon the upper surface of the leaves that light acts; and the leaves will change their position and adjust themselves to the sun's rays. This effect of light is more sensible upon some leaves than upon others, differing according to their structure

and irritability. If a row of nasturtions be shaded on one side, all their leaves will face about to the sunny side, and continue thus directed, until light be admitted from other quarters. On the Grand Prairie of Illinois, in some parts of this state and Ohio, there grows a plant called rosin-weed (a species of *Reedbeckia*). Its leaves which are very large and rough, when they are fully developed, and not exposed to the intrusion of cattle or other disturbing cause, present their surfaces to the east and west, with surprising regularity and exactitude; their edges consequently point north and south, and with equal accuracy. This invariable position of the rosin-weed leaves, must have furnished the wandering Indian with a safe guidance through these trackless plains, when he had not the assistance of his mossy tree or of a clear sky to direct his steps.

JNO. T. PLUMMER.

From the Greenville Mountaineer.

Col. Towns:—I am much gratified to hear of the revival of business in various parts of the country, but none affords me so much pleasure as the accounts from Hamburg South Carolina. In your last paper I saw a notice of the present business and future prospects of that town, of the most encouraging character. I learn also from several honest farmers who have sold cotton there recently, a still much more important fact viz: That the merchants of Hamburg are paying for country produce in good money of South Carolina Banks. This is as it should be, and I most heartily congratulate the country. The days of honesty and fair dealing are soon to be restored. The Banks of Georgia are no longer to be paid a premium on of the labor of the country for violating the laws of honesty, morality, and their country. The circulation of their bills in South Carolina is about being suspended until they return to their duty by paying specie for their bills when demanded.

If my neighbor owed me one hundred bushels of corn, and was to attempt to pay me with a hundred measures which contained one tenth less, thus saving to himself ten bushels of the hundred such as he had paid me, every man in the community would say he was guilty of a fraud, and all would say such an act and its author were dishonest; and yet this is precisely what the men who attempt to pay debts with Georgia money, ten percent below par, are doing. The two acts are precisely alike. Therefore let all honest men, of whatever calling, combine and act in concert, to put a stop to the circulation of this fraudulent Georgia money. Our own good Banks are able and willing to supply us with all the money which our business requires, if we will only refuse to take the depreciated Georgia money. As long as the people will submit to be imposed on by Georgia money, just so long our Banks will refuse to let out their bills; for the emission of their bills, under such circumstances, would put them under the power of those mean Banks and their secret agents. The bills of our Banks would of course immediately return on the Banks that issued them, and all the advantages of the circulation of the bills would be the benefit of mean Banks and the brokers, which are too often the secret agents of the Banks.

But say the friends of mean Georgia money, we are obliged to take it—we can't get any other. This position is untrue and I am at a loss to know how an honest man can for a moment believe it. The only reason why Georgia money is more plenty than S. C., is that Georgia is taken at par. Stop the circulation of Georgia by refusing to take it except at the market discount, and I will give my ears if South Carolina money does not immediately take its place.

The merchants should take the lead in this matter. They are as much interested in the soundness of the currency as any other class, and their peculiar situation gives one of them more influence over the circulation of this country than comes to the share of ten farmers. Let our merchants resolve to stick to the established standard of value, let them receive and pay out all sorts of money at its intrinsic worth, and I go security that our currency will be perfectly sound here in less than three months. On the other hand, the soundness of our currency never will be restored while depreciated money is passed at par.

But says another friend of mean money, I can get more for my cotton in Hamburg in Georgia money, and it will pay my debts, and I can buy as much out of the store with it as with good money. The first of these propositions is contrary to common honesty, and the last is contrary to common sense. The man who would sell his cotton for mean money to pay his debts, would be doing precisely the same thing as he would if he had his half bushel of corn he owed his neighbor; thus cheating him out of what he justly owed and had given him out to pay. If I was to hear a man say that he would sell his cotton to get mean money to pay his debts, because it would bring more than it would in good money, I should watch him measure the corn he was selling me. The man who would cheat under the one set of circumstances, is none too good to do it under the other. That merchants can afford to sell goods as cheap for depreciated Georgia money as they can for our good money, is untrue; and let any one who doubts that what I say, is and is desirous to know the truth, inquire of any intelligent merchant in Greenville or elsewhere.

But says another, the circulation of mean money is an advantage to the poor. This is another false position. The wages of labor are now no higher in Georgia money than they would be in good, and inasmuch as mean money is worth less than good, the working man is that much injured by it. And as to paying his debts, there would just as much money fall to his share if there was none but what was good, and he is therefore not benefited in that way.

I say again, it is a matter of joy to me to see the merchants of Hamburg return to their duty, by paying for produce in good money. The farmers ought, and I have no doubt will, sustain them in that course. The Bank of Hamburg can have no objections to furnish its bills, if they are to be circulated in the country, and not returned

immediately on the Bank for exchange or specie, as will always be the case while the merchants and the people will consent to be imposed on by mean depreciated money. Let our country and village merchants lend their aid, as I have no doubt they will, and the country will very soon be rid of depreciated money. GREENVILLE.

The following is the reply of Gov. Bagby of Alabama, to the Hon. S. M. Gates, the abolitionist member of Congress from New York, to a letter transmitting certain abolition papers. The reply of Gov. McDonald, of this State, to the same honorable gentleman who have heretofore published—Augusta Constitutionalist.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Tuscaloosa, Sept. 2, 1840.

SIR: I received a few days since under cover of your frank, as a member of Congress of the United States, a circular and certain resolutions; emanating from an assemblage of persons held in London, on the 12th June last, styling itself the World's Convention. The object of these persons, as expressed and set forth in their proceedings, is, the immediate abolition of negro slavery. Inasmuch as I have not the honor of your acquaintance, being ignorant there was such a man in existence until I received the communication above referred to, I was somewhat at a loss to conjecture why I should have attracted so much of your attention, as to be honored through you with the proceedings of 'The World's Convention.' I conclude however, that you are among the number of those engaged, either as principals or agents, in disseminating the atrocious principle of abolition. If I am correct in this conclusion, it were useless to remind you of the indignity of an American statesman playing the part of a lackey to a pack of foreign and domestic fanatics, or of the enormity of the moral guilt of engaging in a crusade against the rights and safety of the people of one entire section of the U. States, by the diffusion of principles calculated obviously, and inevitably, to incite Southern negroes to acts of rebellion, insurrection and murder.

Neither is it my province to determine how far it may be compatible with your views of the franking privilege, which I apprehend was intended to facilitate the means of correspondence and intercourse between the Representative and his constituents, for a member of the Congress of the United States to prostitute it to the infamous purposes to which you have applied it in the present instance.

That is a question, which so far as you are concerned, refers itself entirely to your own sense of propriety. Let, however, neither my opinion nor your sense of propriety should be sufficient to shield me from correspondence disagreeable in itself and upon a subject which I consider absolutely improper for public discussion; I have to request, and I do it respectfully, that if you should feel disposed to continue your efforts in this unholy cause, you will have the kindness to give to that portion of them with which I have been honored a different direction. I am, your obedient servant, A. P. BAGBY.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 28.

From Texas.—By the arrival of the schooner Arab and Henry Clay, from Galveston, we have papers to the 19th inst. They contain little intelligence of interest. The pilot schooner Santa Ana, on her voyage from New Orleans to Texas was struck by lightning for the second time. A Frenchman, a passenger, whose name is unknown, was killed.

The equinoctial storm in Galveston on the night of the 17th, continued, without abatement during the succeeding day.

The elections are going on in Texas. Little or no political excitement appears to exist. The papers give partial returns.

President Lamar has been very ill, but is now convalescent. The Houston Telegraph has suffered a temporary suspension for want of paper.

We learn by the Austin Sentinel, that a gentleman in the vicinity of Bastrop, has found three young leopards, which he is endeavoring to raise. Two gentlemen from San Antonio, recently saw a hyena on the banks of Cibola. A great many skins of animals, to us unknown, and not described in works on natural history, were taken from the Comanches in the recent engagement. When further discoveries are made in this country, a most interesting field of enquiry will be open to the zoologist.—Musquito.

The Sentinel of the 5th inst. says a report reached that city through the Matamoros, that the whole State of New Mexico has declared for Texas. A portion of that state is within the boundary claimed by this Government, and we have heard from many sources that the inhabitants of that country are well disposed towards this government.—Ibid.

Baltimore Coffee Trade.—During the late months of June, July and August there were imported into Baltimore direct from foreign ports 55,673 bags of Coffee, of which, as we learn from Lyle's Commercial Journal, 41,951 bags were from Rio de Janeiro, and 13,812 bags from St. Domingo, Laguayra, Havana, &c. Last week the stock of all descriptions in first hands was about 6,400 bags—showing that the sales since June have been up wards of 50,600 bags—or about fifteen millions of pounds, the value of which was about \$1,240,000. This is indeed a handsome business, especially when it is borne in mind that the principal part of the sales were effected during the usually dull months of July and August. The completion of the Rail-road and Canal communications between Baltimore and the great chain of Pennsylvania works, (which was happily effected last Spring) has contributed no little towards the results above stated.—Baltimore American.

A Retort Professional.—A physician, passing by a stone-mason's, bawled out to him, "Good morning, Mr. W.—hard at work, I see; you finish your gravestones as far as 'In memory of,' and then you wait, I suppose, to see who wants a monument next?" "Why, yes," replied the old man, resting for a moment on his mallet, "unless somebody is sick, and you are doctoring him, and then I keep right on!"

The Multiplication of Banks during the existence of United States Bank.—It is a common assertion of the whigs, that the United States Bank prevented the growth and multiplication of the State banks.—A greater fallacy was never asserted. At the time of the adoption of the first charter of the United States Bank in 1791, there were but very few State banks in existence—the published statistics say six.

The truth is that the State bank system grew up under the wing and patronage of the United States Bank.

In 1816, there were 146 banks, In 1820, there were 338 banks, In 1830, there were 330 banks, In 1834, there were 506 banks, In 1835, there were 550 banks, In 1836, there were 567 banks.

The United States Bank was chartered in 1816 and expired in 1835; thus during its whole existence there was a continual multiplication of banks. Some accounts place the number of banks higher during this period. A statement in Niles' Register places the number of banks in 1833, at about 700.

In April, 1818, Mr. Niles said—"We see everywhere new banks established, or attempting to be established. Behold! forty-three new banks authorized in Kentucky; ten in Tennessee; eight in Ohio; a mass in little Rhode Islands; some in Virginia, Massachusetts, &c.; sixteen petitions for more banks in New York, and some wanted in Pennsylvania; half a dozen new ones in Maryland, and from fifty to a hundred proposed in various parts of the United States."

It seems that the mania for banking was stimulated instead of being restrained by the great Regulator. The Legislature of New York, in 1834, incorporated twenty-three banks. They multiplied in every direction during the existence of both Banks of the United States. They talk against the well established history of the currency, who say that the United States Bank has ever restrained the multiplication of the State banks. The whole error is in the State legislation, and the remedy must be administered by the Legislatures of the States. It is in vain to look for a correction from Congress, or a National Bank.—Federal Union.

Daniel Webster and the last War.—Gen. Harrison's Secretary of State, in anticipation, spoke of the last war in the following strain:

"Sir I honor the people that SHRINK from a WARFARE LIKE THIS. I applaud their sentiments and feelings. They are such as RELIGION and HUMANITY DICTATE, and such as none but CANNIBALS would wish to eradicate from the human heart."

What a beautiful republican administration General Harrison's would be, if he is ever able to gull the people into a support. We wonder if his southern supporters have no conscience to place at ease? Can they sustain such views as those of Mr. Webster? In a word, "are they joined to their idols."—Federal Union.

Are Coming Elections.—The people of Georgia will soon be called on to select between Mr. Van Buren and Wm. Henry Harrison. Now it is an old adage, the character of the man may be ascertained from the company he keeps. Who are the most intimate friends, and able supporters of Mr. Van Buren? They are Forsyth, Benton, King, Poinsett, Grundy, Calhoun, all slaveholders. Who are Harrison's? They are Webster, Adams, Slade, Southard, and Tallmadge, all inhabitants of non-slaveholding States.—The only distinguished members of Congress who are slaveholders, and who sustain General Harrison, are Clay and Preston; disappointed politicians, both. The one has lost the Presidency, the other his position in his own State. The one has been beaten by Mr. Van Buren, the other has dropped beneath the towering talons of Mr. Calhoun.

Ambition disappointed and frustrated, will drive men to desperation.—Savannah Georgian.

Abolition.—The recent excitement in the Southern portion of Virginia, adjoining North Carolina, on account of the discovery of a contemplated insurrection, and the more serious demonstration in Louisiana; the former of which was strongly suspected to have been urged on by fanatical abolitionists, and the latter known to be, admonishes the whole South to be upon the alert. Every town and village should be prepared to protect themselves promptly, from the evils which may be brought upon them, by the insidious movements of these raving philanthropists. This suggestion applies to no place, with which we are acquainted, more strongly, than to Camden.

Doubt still hangs over the Maine election. The Whigs are shouting "victory"—strange kind of victory the elect of Kent! This is the man upon whom the Executive of this State made a demand for the fugitive slave of James and Henry Sagors of this city, who was refused as refused by this creature of Northern abolition whiggery—and this is he, whose election to the office of Governor is hailed by our opponents as a victory.

God save the South from such victories, say we! But we do not give up the election in Maine. Fairfield may, and we think will be elected, and the Democrats have proven themselves too strong for the combined forces of whigs and abolitionists.—Savannah Georgian.

Sylvester the Hungry Sentenced.—The New York Sun of yesterday says that distinguished worthy, Elias J. Sylvester, of No. 150 Broadway, the amiable agent of the New Orleans Lottery Hamburg, was on Thursday arraigned in the Court over and Terminus, on the conviction heretofore obtained against him for one of his transactions in the above named swindling concern, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$150; not half enough—and to stand committed till he paid the fine. Not being prepared to fulfill the righteous but too merciful requirement of the law, an officer politely took him into custody.

A year of pleasure passes like a fleeting breeze; but a moment of misfortune seems an age of pain.

Another Texian Tiger.—A late Houston Morning Star, gives the particulars of a desperate rencontre between a Mr. F— and a large tiger, on the banks of the La Barea river, which occurred recently.—Mr. F—furnished the editor with the statement himself. It seems this gentleman was hunting cattle in the bottoms, and after forcing his way for half a mile through the thick cane in order to strike across from one path to another, he heard a rattling and cracking of the breaks in a partial opening a short distance before him; supposing that he had come up with the object of his search he hastened forward. As he came within ten feet of the spot, he saw, crouched upon his belly in the attitude of springing, an enormous tiger. His eyes were fixed with fiery intensity upon him, his tail was vibrating slowly, and every movement showed the animal to be just ready to spring. Mr. F—quickly cocked his rifle and brought it to his shoulder. The spring and shot were almost simultaneous. As the animal struck the ground with a yell, he writhed and rolled, and uttered unceasingly yells for nearly a minute, when he then seemed exhausted Mr. F—then drew his Bowie knife, and stealthily approached as the animal lay with his back towards him, and drove the steel to the handle into his side. A sharp yell and spasm, and he was dead. The ball had entered the breast, and penetrated into the heart. This was one of the largest tigers ever killed in Texas, and was equal in almost every respect to the Royal Bengal Tiger of the East. It measured 14 feet from the tip of the nose to the extremity of the tail. Mr. F—took the skin from the monster, and keeps it as a trophy.

From the St. Louis New Era.

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.—Six or Eight Lives Lost.—The steam boats Glaucus and Fayette left this port Saturday afternoon on their respective voyages to Quincy and the Illinois river. They reached the mouth of Missouri about nine o'clock at night. The Fayette was then astern of the Glaucus about fifty yards. Just at a point of the river, the Glaucus met the steamboat Pike, descending from the Gallien. They passed each other in safety, and the Pike, not discovering the Fayette, continued on her course. The pilot of the Fayette now, for the first time, saw the descending boat, under full headway, coming down upon them. He rung the engine bell, and the engineer had changed the operation of the machinery so as to back the boat. The Pike was struck forward of the wheel house, and being a small boat, with 500 pigs of lead on board, she went down almost immediately. She was full of passengers, in the cabin and on deck, having taken from the Agents, around above, but which got off and reached here early on Saturday, a large number of passengers. A scene of indescribable anguish and dismay presented itself. Many were thrown overboard who were afterwards saved by the Fayette. The cabin parted from the hull and it was towed ashore and water fast. Several were taken from the hull, lying in eight feet of water, who were found clinging to stanchions, etc. One man was taken up so nearly exhausted, after being an hour in the water, clinging to a piece of the wreck, as to be hardly able to speak. At such a time, it is difficult to say how many lives were lost. Two firemen, two children, and a man and woman were known to have perished, and perhaps one or two others. The bodies were not found. The Fayette returned to this port yesterday, with the passenger and crew of the Pike. The Pike was not insured. She was a small low water boat. We have not learned to whom the cargo belonged.

A FEW PLAIN QUESTIONS.

1. Can any intelligent and honest man say that he believes the foreign affairs of the country would be safer in the hands of Harrison than of the sagacious, experienced, and cool headed President who has carried us so successfully through the foreign dangers of the last few years?

2. Can any moral or religious citizen say, that the decreencies of life—the good example to the young, or the correct habits of the middle aged—will be promoted more by Harrison—with his profanity and hard cider orgies, than by Mr. Van Buren and his industrious attention to every duty, private or public?

3. Can any upright merchant reflect and say that one who, like Harrison, proposes to come into power on the strength merely of foreign commerce, the stable currency, and durable peace on the ocean, than a President born in the great commercial State of New York, and familiar from youth with all the laws and true interests of commerce?

4. Can any virtuous farmer, mechanic or laborer say that Harrison, born in the lap of luxury, wealth, and high station, and a professional man by education, can sympathize with them, and feel disposed to watch over the welfare like one who was born a farmer's son—whose earliest days were spent in the farmers' field, and whose latest acts have been full of kindness and protection to those who live by the sweat of their brow?—Globe.

State of South Carolina.

EDGEFIELD DISTRICT.

OLIVER TOWLES, Esquire, Ordinary of Edgefield District.

Whereas, Jas. Tomkins hath applied to me for Letters of Administration, on all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of Jesse Stone, late of the District aforesaid, deceased.

These are, therefore, to cite and admonish all and singular, the kindred and creditors of the said deceased, to be and appear before me, at our next Ordinary's Court for the said District, to be held at Edgefield Court House on the 25th day of October, to show cause if any, why the said Administration should not be granted. Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty, and in the sixty-fifth year of American Independence. O. TOWLES, O. E. D. Oct. 14, 1840 (S2 124) b 37

A WARNING.

ALL who are indebted to the late firm of A. Bland Cutlin & Co will please make payment with the least possible delay. Edgefield C. H., Oct 14, 1840. b 37

Communications.

When a city or country, that has long basked in the sun-shine of prosperity and peace, is suddenly surprised by the descent of vast hordes of savages, or attacked by the more systematic but not less dreadful besieging army, all within the walls of the beleaguered place, is turbulence and tumult; without order or regularity, each one hurries to and fro for succor, and often the torch of the midnight seeker for help, is more fatal to the besieged, than the bomb and rocket of the besieger. So when a malignant or perhaps fatal disease makes its intrusion into a community which has been long blessed with comparative health; at first the most common dictates of prudence are forgotten, and confidence is often lost, where success in combating its ravages depends upon its being maintained. For a while, Terror usurps the place of Reason, and where Fortitude should have reigned, there is naught but confusion and dismay. Some hope for safety in flight, and after a time return, with systems unaccommodated to the disordered condition of the atmosphere, who fall a prey to its influence, while the more prudent, who had remained and used the proper precautions, have perhaps escaped.

Others again, who see the disease appearing at different points at the same time and cannot discover the cause, for the reason that they have never devoted time to its study, imagine that precaution is useless and because they have fortunately escaped its attacks, urge their own experience in proof of their opinion, that all preventive measures are useless.

We have made these remarks not for the purpose of aggravating fear, but for the purpose of quieting it if possible, an unnecessary apprehension of most persons, as to the certain fatality of the form of Scarlet fever, which has, during the past summer, made its appearance in the neighborhood. The first case of a malignant nature, which has occurred in this section of country, was in the latter part of May last, and was attended with a fatal result, as were some five or six cases, that occurred within a month or more after, since which time up to the present, there have been repeated cases of attack and recovery. Taking all the cases, which the writer of this has known from good authority, he feels confident in asserting, that of five or six that have been attacked, not more than one has been attended with serious consequences, or resulted fatally.

The great amount of rain, that has fallen during the past summer, with the constant heat of the atmosphere since the rains have ceased; has afforded unfortunately the most favorable combination of circumstances for the development and spread of Scarlet fever. Under these accidental causes, the disease has assumed something of an epidemic character, and seems to exhaust its virulence almost exclusively upon children under twelve years of age. To those then who have the management of children, these remarks are more particularly addressed, so that by the exercise of a sound discretion toward those under their care, they may be better prepared to bear up under the disorder should they happen to receive it.

Fear, it is well known, is the most depressing of all the passions, and abundant instances are on record of its having produced instant death. How cautious then should parents be, that by ill-timed conversations and the relation of cases of unhappy termination, their children's minds be not poisoned by this most slavish and basest of human passions? Children are imitative creatures, their perceptions strong, their reasoning faculties weak, their memories tenacious; let them but be taken sick, they are quick and suspicious; they soon learn the name at least of their disorder—ever on the alert they watch closely all who may be around them, and it by indirect conversations in their presence, they have acquired the idea that their ailment is to be fatal, every anxious look of the fond mother is construed by them into grief and sorrow at their approaching doom. The physician arrives and finds to his inexpressible regret, that in addition to the disorder of the body, he has to combat with one a thousand times more powerful in the mind. The patient sinks and dies—perhaps as much a victim to untoward circumstances, as to the malignity of the disorder. That some few cases, where the cause above alluded to has not operated, seem from the moment of attack to be beyond the reach of medicine, I am willing to admit, but these are few indeed.

Any opinion upon the treatment of the disease would be obviously out of place in a newspaper, this belongs to the Physician, and no general directions will suffice, no particular plan prove successful in every case of a disorder which is Protean in its symptoms and its character.

Preventive measures nevertheless untiringly persevered in, have been attended mostly with success in staying the progress of this fever, and not unfrequently with the effect of disarming it of much of its violence. Those which have the greatest reputation at the present day, are founded upon the contagious and infectious nature of the disease.—The breath of a patient laboring under the disease being generally supposed to be most contagious, next in order, infection from the acrid secretions and from handling the body of a patient. It having been proved that the miasmata do not adhere to the clothes of visitors and attendants, and the only possible mode then of the contagion being indirect, through the atmosphere; provided be abutions hereafter advised be practiced, persons visiting and assisting to nurse the sick need not apprehend carrying the infection to their homes.

As much seclusion of the sick as possible, placing them in upper apartments where there may be free ventilation; changes of bed and body linen; frequent and careful washing of the hands of the attendants and indeed by all who approach and touch the sick, and as children more especially than adults seem to be liable to the disease, they should be kept from the contaminated atmosphere of the sick room. Fumigations &c. come under the view of the medical attendant.

During convalescence the patient should not be permitted to associate with other children, as the capability of communicating the infection is not lost sometimes even for a week or two after recovery.—